



Innovate • Evaluate • Disseminate

Generate evidence to advance youth well-being, globally.

Economic Security. Supportive Systems. Capable Youth.

September 3, 2021

Quarterly News & Events

With the 2021-2022 academic year off to a start, GSDI will begin their **virtual bi-monthly webinar series** beginning in October. This year we plan to dive into hot topics within the field of social development, with each webinar featuring global research leaders.



Save the Date for Upcoming Webinar Events

October 28, 2021 9AM - 10:30AM (EST-US)
December 16, 2021 9AM-10:30AM (EST-US)

Previous webinar events are recorded and can be accessed on our [YouTube Channel!](#)

Welcoming Our Students!

We are committed to **training the next generation of global researchers & practitioners.**
Join us in welcoming these talented students to our team for the 2021-2022 academic year!

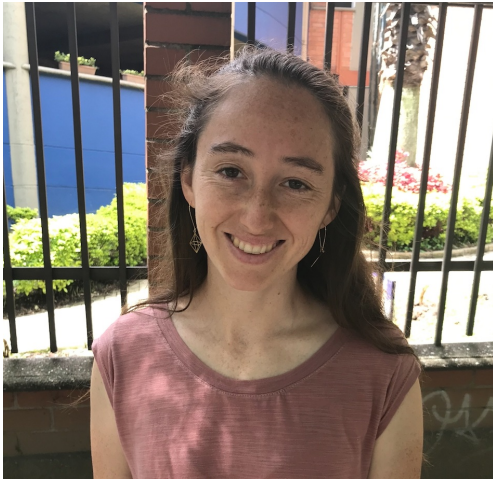
Chelsea Schafer (she/her/hers) Specialization Field Practicum Student



Chelsea Schafer is a final year dual degree student pursuing a Master of Social Work from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Master of Divinity from Duke Divinity School. Previously, she earned her B.A. in Sociology from Roanoke College and is originally from Locust Grove, Virginia, but she currently lives in Durham, North Carolina. She has internship experience with youth and children's ministries, foster care services, preschool services, a non-profit that focuses on food security, and an inter-faith non-profit that supports students in Kenya. Building upon her internship experiences and education, Chelsea's career plans are to be a project coordinator for a religious, international non-profit that works with children and youth populations, helping them secure access to education, stability, and food security.

Hannah Marion (she/her/hers)

Research Assistant



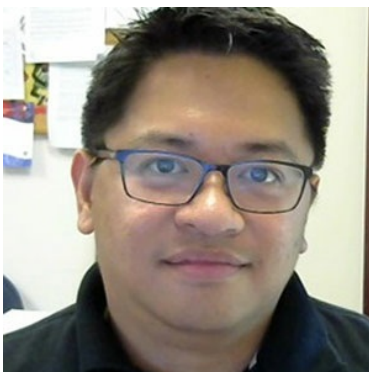
Hannah is from Hillsborough, NC. She attended Brandeis University where she majored in Sociology and Hispanic Studies and minored in Social Justice Social Policy, Education Studies, and Latin American and Latino Studies. After college, she moved to Miami where she worked at Miami-Dade County Public Schools and the History Miami Museum and organized with the Dream Defenders. She moved back to North Carolina in 2019 where she is currently pursuing an J.D./M.S.W. at UNC. In law school, she served as president of UNC's National Lawyers Guild chapter and worked as a research assistant for Professor Kathryn Sabbeth focusing on housing justice. Hannah is excited to work as a research assistant at GSDI because she is passionate about research that includes and centers youth throughout the process.

Faculty Member Awards & Recognition

GSDI Faculty, Staff, and Students Co-Host and Participate in International Social Development Conference

In July 2021, GSDI Faculty, Staff, and students co-hosted and participated in the virtual International Consortium for Development (ICSD) 22nd Biennial Conference. The theme of the conference was **Poverty, Inequality, and Social Development: Innovations Around the World**. Across 4 days, the conference included over 240 presentations and generated around 80 hours of social development related content.

[Read More Here](#)
[Conference Website](#)



Dr. Rainier Masa receives award from the National Institute on Minority Health & Health Disparities (NIMHD)

From July 2021 to March 2023, Dr. Masa along with colleagues from UNC School of Nursing, Brown University School of Public Health, and community partner, El Centro Hispano, will work on a project titled **Intersectional Stigma and Resilience among Young Latinx Gay, Bisexual and Other Men who have Sex with Men to Improve HIV Testing and PrEP Uptake**. This project aims to reduce the disproportionate burden of HIV and AIDS in the United States' young Latinx GBM population, by (a) better understanding how intersectional stigmas affect HIV risk and (b) creating culturally congruent services.

[Read More Here](#)

Dr. Gina Chowa recognized for her leadership in Social Development.

Following her delivery of the Dan Sanders Peace and Justice Memorial Lecture at the virtual International Consortium for Development (ICSD) 22nd Biennial Conference, Prof. Gina Chowa

graciously accepted a **Leadership in Social Development** award which recognizes her illustrious efforts to advance the field of social development.

[Watch the Daniel S. Sanders Peace and Justice Memorial Lecture Here](#)



Faculty Affiliate Spotlight

Our work prides itself on being **locally-driven** and **context-specific**, because of this we rely upon the leadership and expertise of Faculty Affiliates across the globe.



Dr. Jacob Omolo

Senior Lecturer, Department of Applied Economics, Kenyatta University
Director, Capacity Development and Consultancy Services, Kenyatta University

For 11 years, Dr. Jacob Omolo has served in his role as a Senior Lecturer at Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya where he also serves as the Director for Capacity Development and Consultancy services. Dr. Omolo has recently been working on an Integrated Labor Market Assessment (September 2020 to July 2021). The objectives of this report are specific to Turkana County, Kenya and include: 1) an assessment of legal, regulatory, institutional and policy frameworks that support the labor market, 2) an assessment of the supply and demand for labor, 3) documentation of perceptions of refugees and host communities on employment and livelihood opportunities, and 4) conduction of an institutional capacity assessment.

[Learn more about Dr. Omolo's work here...](#)

Recent Publications

- Fraga Rizo, C., Masa, R., Godoy, S., & O'Brien, J. (Accepted for publication). Sexual exploitation and abuse among adolescents in Ghana: The role of schools. *Journal of Family Trauma, Child Custody & Child Development*.
- Masa, R. & *Sharma, A. (2021). [Invariance of the Household Food Insecurity Access Scale across different groups of adolescents and young adults](#). *Food & Nutrition Bulletin*. doi.org/10.1177/03795721211019634
- Masa, R., *Baca-Atlas, S., & Hangoma, P. (2021). [Walking and perceived lack of safety: Correlates and association with health outcomes for people living with HIV in rural Zambia](#). *Journal of Transport and Health*, 22, 101140. doi.org/10.1016/j.jth.2021.101140

